

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAJ-01 SAM-01 /064 W

----- 027528

P R 051215Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1946

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PINT, PO

SUBJ: COUNCIL OF MINISTERS COMMUNIQUE BLASTS PRESS

IRRESPONSIBILITY

REF: LISBON 1186

1. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MAR. 4 ORDERED ALL MEDIA

"OBLIGATORILY TO CARRY" TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE DENOUNCING

"IRRESPONSIBILITY" OF PRESS IN PRINTING STORIES LIKE ONE

THAT APPEARED IN A CAPITAL MAR 3 CALLING AMBASSADOR AND DCM

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CIA AGENTS (REFTEL).

2 COMMUNIQUE APPEARED IN ALL MORNING DAILIES MAR 5
AND WAS READ IN ITS ENTIRETY ON 8:00 A.M. RADIO NEWSCASTS.

3. FULL TEXT COMMUNIQUE AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE:

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DISTRIBUTED YESTERDAY, THROUGH
THE MINISTRY OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS, A COMMUNIQUE BEING
INNER QUOTE TO BE DISSEMINATED OBLIGATORILY THROUGH THE
ORGANS OF INFORMATION END INNER QUOTE, REGARDING AN ARTICLE
PUBLISHED BY THE AFTERNOON DAILY A CAPITAL.

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THAT COMMUNIQUE:

BEGIN INNER QUOTE. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, IN ITS
SESSION OF MARCH 4, 1975, TOOK COGNIZANCE OF AN ARTICLE
PUBLISHED IN THE EDITION OF LAST MONDAY, MARCH 4, IN THE
DAILY A CAPITAL WITH THE TITLE BEING QUOTE CIA PLANS A
COUP D'ETAT IN PORTUGAL BEFORE THE END OF MARCH END QUOTE. AN
ARTICLE LATER ECHOED IN OTHER NEWSPAPERS.
ALTHOUGH THE ARTICLE IN QUESTION IS A TRANSLATION OF
TWO ARTICLES RECENTLY PUBLISHED IN A GERMAN MAGAZINE,
THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT BUT LAMENT THE IRRESPONSIBILITY REVEALED
IN THE PROPAGATION OF SPECULATIVE HYPOTHESES WHICH, AND IN THIS
LIES THE GRAVITY, BRING INTO QUESTION MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT
AND DIPLOMATIC INSTITUTIONS ACCREDITED IN PORTUGAL.
THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT JOURNALISTIC INITIATIVES
OF THIS NATURE IN NO WAY CONTRIBUTE TO INFORMING PUBLIC
OPINION OR TO ALERTING THE PEOPLE'S VIGILANCE, LEADING ON
THE CONTRARY TO ENCOURAGING AN ATMOSPHERE OF ALARM, DISCREDIT
AND MISTRUST WHICH ONLY EMBARRASSES THE GOVERNMENT.
IN THIS CONTEXT THE GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT INFORMATION
ORGANS WILL TAKE THE GREATEST PRECAUTIONS IN CASES OF THIS
NATURE SEEKING REALLY TO SERVE THE PEOPLE WITH GREATER TRUTH
AND OBJECTIVITY AND AVOIDING FANCIFUL AND DIVISIONIST
SPECULATIONS SO OFTEN THE INGENIOUS PRODUCT OF
MANIPULATIONS CONTRARY TO THE NATIONAL INTEREST. END QUOTE.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY DID NOT STIMULATE COMMUNIQUE. GERMAN
EMBASSY TELLS US THEY ALSO DID NOT PROD GOP. HOWEVER,
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FRG EMBASSY PLANS TO PROTEST "A CAPITAL" STORY IN NOTE TO
MFA.
CARLUCCI

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, COMMUNIQUES, THE PRESS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON01211
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750077-0124
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750381/aaaacuvb.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LISBON 1186
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COUNCIL OF MINISTERS COMMUNIQUE BLASTS PRESS IRRESPONSIBILITY
TAGS: SOPN, PINT, PO, CIA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006